

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): Method for analysis of the pressure variation in a perfusion device ~~including multiple,~~

said perfusion device comprising a plurality of perfusion modules i each equipped with a pump to deliver a liquid to be perfused in a line i placed downstream from the pump as well as with means for measuring the pressure in the line i,

~~with junction points~~ at least one junction point enabling connection of certain lines among each other at least one of the lines i with (a) at least another of the lines i or certain lines with lines from units (b) at least one line from at least one unit external to the perfusion device,

~~wherein, when a pressure variation Pk in a line k is detected, an analytical process is used to determine~~ said method comprises:

detecting, among lines i of modules i, a variation of pressure Pk in a line k of a module k,  
and

determining, among modules i other than module k, an involvement of ~~other~~ one or several modules j in this pressure variation, by an analytical process.

2. (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, **wherein** the analytical process includes a search for data indicating a modification of flow rate in ~~another~~ a module j.

3. (currently amended): Method according to claim 2, **wherein** when a message indicating a modification of flow rate in ~~another~~ a module j has been found, parameters for analysis of the

module k are modified at least as long as the modification of the flow rate in the module j lasts.

4. (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a slope of a pressure curve of each line i with a slope of a pressure curve of a the line k to determine lines j which are potentially connected to the line k by a junction point and which may also be affected by a pressure variation.

5. (currently amended): Method according to claim 2, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a slope of a pressure curve of each line i with a slope of a pressure curve of a the line k to determine lines j which are potentially connected to the line k by a junction point and which may also be affected by a pressure variation.

6. (currently amended): Method according to claim 3, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a slope of a pressure curve of each line i with a slope of a pressure curve of a the line k to determine lines j which are potentially connected to the line k by a junction point and which may also be affected by a pressure variation.

7. (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a rate of pressure increase in a the line k with a theoretical rate that it should have if an obstruction developed in the line k upstream from any junction point with another line i.

8. (currently amended): Method according to claim 2, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a rate of pressure increase in a the line k with a theoretical rate that it should have if an obstruction developed in the line upstream from any junction point with another line i.

9. (currently amended): Method according to claim 3, **wherein** the analytical process

includes a comparison of a rate of pressure increase in a the line k with a theoretical rate that it should have if an obstruction developed in the line upstream from any junction point with another line i.

10. (currently amended): Method according to claim 4, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a rate of pressure increase in a the line k with a theoretical rate that it should have if an obstruction developed in the line upstream from any junction point with another line i.

11. (currently amended): Method according to claim 5, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a rate of pressure increase in a the line k with a theoretical rate that it should have if an obstruction developed in the line upstream from any junction point with another line i.

12. (currently amended): Method according to claim 6, **wherein** the analytical process includes a comparison of a rate of pressure increase in a the line k with a theoretical rate that it should have if an obstruction developed in the line upstream from any junction point with another line i.

13. (currently amended): Method according to claim 10, **wherein** the analytical process includes a calculation of a theoretical rate of pressure increase which should be observed in the line k in the event of an obstruction downstream from junction points with the lines j and a comparison of the rate of pressure increase in the line k with this theoretical rate.

14. (original): Method according to claim 11, **wherein** the analytical process includes a calculation of a theoretical rate of pressure increase which should be observed in the line k in the event of an obstruction downstream from junction points with the lines j and a comparison of the

rate of pressure increase in the line k with this theoretical rate.

15. (original): Method according to claim 12, **wherein** the analytical process includes a calculation of a theoretical rate of pressure increase which should be observed in the line k in the event of an obstruction downstream from junction points with the lines j and a comparison of the rate of pressure increase in the line k with this theoretical rate.

16. (original): Method according to claim 1, **wherein** a pressure  $P_i$  in each line i is measured at regular intervals, and measurements are stored in a history file starting at the latest at a time when a pressure variation is detected in a the line k.

17. (original): Method according to claim 1, **wherein** the analytical process is initiated when a pressure  $P_k$  in a the line k reaches a threshold value established for each pump.

18. (original): Method according to claim 7, **wherein** when the results of the analytical process lead to a conclusion that a rupture or an obstruction has developed downstream from a pump k, the pump k is stopped.

19. (original): Method according to claim 18, **wherein** pumps j connected to the pump k by their respective lines at junction points located upstream from a rupture or the obstruction are also stopped.

20. (original): Method according to claim 18, **wherein**, when an obstruction is detected, each pump j which has been stopped is operated in reverse for a period of time  $\Delta t_j$ , at a reverse flow rate  $RQ_j$  proportional to the initial flow rate  $Q_j$  at a time of normal operation.

21. (original): Method according to claim 20, **wherein** the periods of time  $\Delta t_j$  during which the pumps affected by the obstruction operate in reverse at the reverse flow rate  $RQ_j$  are selected identical for all said pumps and equal

$$\Delta t = (T_2 - T_0) \times \Sigma (Q_j) / \Sigma (RQ_j),$$

where  $T_0$  is a time at which the obstruction occurred, this time  $T_0$  being determined by means of a history of measurements recorded from a beginning of the perfusion, and  $T_2$  is a time at which the pump  $k$  and possibly the pumps  $j$  were stopped.

22. (original): Method according to claim 20, **wherein** each pump  $j$  affected operates in reverse until a pressure determined on its line  $j$  has dropped below an established threshold  $Pl_j$ .

23. (original): Method according to claim 1, **wherein** a result of the analytical process is displayed in form of a connection diagram of the various lines.

24. (currently amended): Perfusion device ~~including multiple~~ comprising:

a plurality of perfusion modules  $i$  each equipped with a pump to deliver a liquid to be perfused in a line  $i$  placed downstream from the pump as well as means for measuring the pressure in the line  $i$ , ~~with junction points~~

at least one junction point enabling connection of ~~certain lines among each other~~ at least one of the lines  $i$  with (a) at least another of the lines  $i$  or certain lines with lines from units (b) at least one line from at least one unit external to the perfusion device,

the modules  $i$  being capable of exchanging data among each other or with a base unit, ~~wherein the perfusion device is equipped with a device implementing the method according to claim 1, and~~

means for analyzing the pressure variation in the perfusion device by detecting, among lines  $i$  of modules  $i$ , a variation of pressure  $P_k$  in a line  $k$  of a module  $k$ , and determining, among modules  $i$  other than module  $k$ , an involvement of one or several modules  $j$  in this pressure variation, using an analytical process.

25. (new): Method according to claim 1, comprising determining by the analytical process at least one of the following: (a) whether the pressure variation in line k of module k is explained in another module, (b) whether line k of module k is connected to other lines, (c) whether an obstruction has occurred and whether it affects one or a plurality of lines.

26. (new): Method according to claim 1, further comprising acting on the perfusion device by (a) modifying analytical parameters of modules j affected by the pressure variation in line k of module k, or (b) stopping all of the modules j.

27. (new): Device according to claim 24, wherein the analyzing means determines by the analytical process at least one of the following: (a) whether the pressure variation in line k of module k is explained in another module, (b) whether line k of module k is connected to other lines, (c) whether an obstruction has occurred and whether it affects one or a plurality of lines.

28. (new): Device according to claim 24, further comprising means for acting on the perfusion device by (a) modifying analytical parameters of modules j affected by the pressure variation in line k of module k, or (b) stopping all of the modules j.